AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph immediately following the title of the application:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a continuation application of United States Patent Application No. 09/479,889, filed on January 10, 2000, the disclosure of which is herewith incorporated by reference in its entirety.--

Please rewrite the paragraph on page 18, lines 15-17 as follows:

In this embodiment, a first counter 1, a second counter $2\underline{3}$ and a baud-rate generating portion 8 operate at a clock frequency of 3.6868 MHz.